

## NEWS RELEASE

**INDIANA  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT**



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Media Contact: Jeff Harris, 317/ 232-3396  
Diane Wieland, 317/ 232-6699

Joseph E. Kernan, Governor  
Alan D. Degner, Commissioner

### ***Kernan Awards Training Grant to Columbus's Impact Forge, Inc.***

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—Seventy-three workers at Columbus's Impact Forge, Inc. will learn new skills thanks to a grant awarded by Gov. Joe Kernan today.

Administered by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the \$174,590 Incumbent Worker Training grant will be used to train employees in mechanical and electrical maintenance, programming and advanced operator training. The company will match the state funding by contributing \$563,616 toward training.

"In an ever-changing economy, keeping our workforce's skills on the cutting edge is essential to not only the success of individual citizens seeking meaningful employment, but for the success of companies in this competitive global environment," added the governor. "That's why we are excited when company's like Impact Forge step up and make these types of investments."

Founded in 1986, Impact Forge Inc. is one of the fastest growing companies in the forging industry. Currently employing approximately 500 people, the company manufacturers flashed and flashless, medium and large hot forging with cold coining to produce "combo forgings." Impact Forge's products are used in the appliance, agriculture, automotive, construction, diesel engine, hand tool, industrial fittings, mining, off highway, safety product and truck industries.

"We are especially pleased to receive the support and assistance of this training grant from the State of Indiana to provide a portion of the funds we are using here at Impact Forge to better educate and train our employees," said Bob Stevens, CEO of Impact Forge, Inc. "In order to survive in this world of global competition for manufacturing jobs, it is vitally important that we continually improve the education and training of our employees to be more productive. We thank the State of Indiana for its foresight on this important issue."

Twenty-four employees will receive 285 contact hours in mechanical maintenance and 19 college credits, 11 employees will receive 330 contact hours in programming/electrical maintenance and 22 college credits, while 38 workers will receive advanced operator training that includes 220 contact hours and 14 college credits. Vincennes University will provide the training, with workers earning a Customized Certificate of Applied Learning in their specialty area upon co completion of the training.

All Indiana businesses are eligible to apply for Incumbent Worker Training grants. Approved by the Incumbent Worker Training Board, the grants are designed to create a world-class workforce in Indiana through continuous improvement to the skill levels of Hoosier workers.

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Through its various programs and initiatives, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, works with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service.

For more information on this or other DWD programs, contact Jeff Harris at 317/232-3396 or visit the web site at [www.workforce.IN.gov](http://www.workforce.IN.gov).

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